

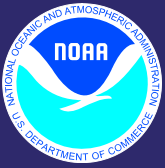
# **Hazardous Weather: Week of 16 November 2009**

**Continued threat of flooding, damaging winds, coastal flooding and avalanches**

**Brad Colman  
National Weather Service**

**16 November 2009**

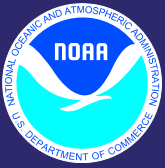




# Overview

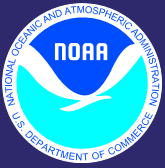


- A series of strong Pacific frontal systems impacting Western Washington this week
  - *First one was last night*
  - *Another system overnight tonight*
  - *A third on Thursday*
- Impacts
  - *Heavy rainfall likely to continue mainly over the Olympics and North Cascades through early Tuesday; and again Thursday*
  - *Flooding most likely for Olympic Peninsula and North Cascades rivers through early Tuesday; concern for the Chehalis*
  - *Avalanche Warning for North Cascades in effect*
  - *Strong damaging winds possible across western Washington*
  - *Outer coastal flooding Tuesday*



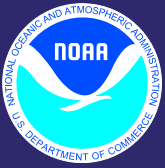
# Satellite Imagery





# Surface windspeed forecast





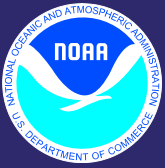
# Current Statements



- Please see our website for the latest Watch/Warning/Advisories:

[www.weather.gov/seattle](http://www.weather.gov/seattle)

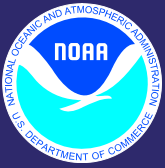




# Forecast

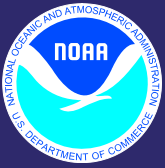
- **Rainfall amounts** – 36-hour total
  - **Lowlands:** 1 to 3 inches
  - **Mountains:**
    - **Olympics** – 5 to 10 inches
    - **North Cascades** – 3 to 6 inches
    - **Central Cascades** – 1 to 3 inches
    - **Willapa Hills** – 3 to 6 inches
    - **Freezing Level** – 5000-6000 ft
      - *Dropping to near 3000 ft by Tue night*





# Flooding Details

- **Olympic Peninsula**
  - *Skokomish at Major Flood (Warning)*
  - *Minor flooding for Satsop and Bogachiel (Warnings)*
  - *Areal Flood Warning for entire Peninsula*
- **Chehalis river (Watch)**
  - *Tonight's rain may be enough to drive to Flood*
    - Current model forecast show Minor flooding upstream; major flooding downstream

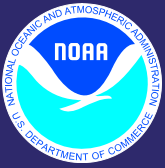


# Flooding Details (Cont.)

- **North Cascades**
  - *Nooksack, Skagit, and Stillaguamish (Watch)*
- **Rest of Cascades**
  - *Little threat -- including the Green*
- **Urban/Small Stream Flooding**
  - *Possible in the Puget Sound region late this afternoon and evening*





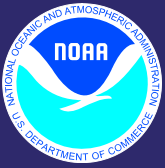


# Wind



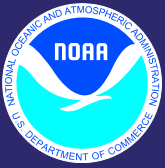
- **Tonight's event**
  - *Very similar to last night's*
- **For later tonight and early Tuesday**
  - **Coast and North Interior** (*High Wind Warning*)
    - 40 mph sustained with gusts to 60 mph
  - **Puget Sound Region/ Southwest Interior** (*Wind Advisory*)
    - 25 to 35 mph sustained with gusts up to 50 mph
  - **Mountains**
    - 40 to 65 mph in exposed locations





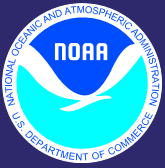
# Avalanche Danger

- **North Cascades and Olympics (Warning)**
  - *Peaking today with High Risk all elevations*
  - *Warning will continue through early Tuesday*
  - *Climax releases are possible as heavy rain reaches ground surface and lubricates bottom of snow pack*
- **Remainder Cascades**
  - *Risk increasing significantly and becoming moderate through tonight*
- **Lower freezing levels by midday Tuesday will lower risk all areas**



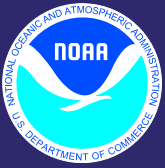
# Coastal Flooding

- **What** - Coastal Flood Advisory and High Surf Advisory
- **When** - Tuesday
- **Where** - Outer coastal areas
- **Details** -
  - *Aberdeen High Tide near 1245 PM – 11.1 feet*
  - *Combination of Strong Onshore Winds, Low Atmospheric Pressure and High Surf*
  - *Aberdeen High Tide will be near 13 feet*



# Rest of the Week

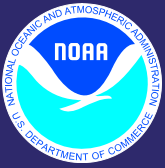
- **Showers Tue night and Wed**
- **Next Pacific Weather System Thu for another period of possibly heavy rain**
- **Showery weather pattern into the weekend**
- **Next fifteen days total precipitation expected is around 15 inches in the Olympics**



# Impact Summary

- **Tonight into Tuesday**
  - *Heavy Rain / Flooding Threat*
  - *Strong Damaging Winds*
  - *Avalanche Danger*
  - *Minor Coastal Flooding*
- **Stay Tuned !!**
- **Another GoToMeeting Weather Briefing Tuesday at 1 PM PST**

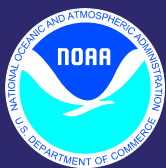




# Resources

- [NWSCat](#) – Great tool to get quick personal help
- [weather.gov/seattle/](http://weather.gov/seattle/) – NWS Seattle web site
- [nwac.us](http://nwac.us) – Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center
- [wsdot.wa.gov](http://wsdot.wa.gov) – Washington State Dept. of Transportation
- [wwc.nrcs.usda.gov/snotel](http://wwc.nrcs.usda.gov/snotel) – Natural Resources Conservation Service (snow data)
- [tidesonline.com](http://tidesonline.com) – National Ocean Service tide data





# Questions

